

Leicester,

Jan. 28. 1862.

Dear Mr. Garrison,

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A. May, Jr. Leicester, Jan. 25. 62

I left Boston Monday p.m., to get home, having no doubt that I could do so, provided I could reach Worcester; - the latter however was done, without very great difficulty, in about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours; - and then I found that I must stay there. No sleigh, or vehicle of any sort, had come from Leicester that day, & the mail had been carried to & fro on horseback; & no stable keeper would fit out a horse & sleigh to go. So I passed the night there, & got home at about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 yesterday, - finding that my wife & Ader. had got through the 2 severe storms without serious trouble.

From Boston I wrote you a note, wherein I mentioned what E. Jackson had told me of the decision in the case of F. J.'s will, & that a meeting of Trustees, appointed by F. J.,

would soon be held. — Yesterday I had a notice from C. K. Whipple that such a meeting was to be held at E. Jackson's house on Monday next, at 10 o'clock.

I was much surprised at that, as E. Jr. had told me the meeting should not be held before Tuesday, and I had explained that I had an engagement for Monday, & evening. I cannot well break that engagement, and, if I can postpone it, I must still go to Boston on Saturday, in order to be ready for the meeting at that early hour, which it would be quite inconvenient to me to do. ~~without~~ It was a most inconvenient hour for all the <sup>living</sup> trustees ~~out of~~ of town. Therefore, as I may not (as probably shall not) be able to ~~not~~ attend the meeting on that day (now, I have to-day written to Edmund Jackson, expressing my opinion as to the appropriate use of P. J.'s bequest. I have

suggested its appropriation to the Freedmen's Union Commission, - or, preferably, to the New England Branch of the same; - not to be at once expended, & perhaps not at all on office expenses, rents, &c. - but to be established as a fund, the income (& also it may be a percentage of the principal) to be used for the practical work of the Commission, support of teachers, &c. and in publications arousing the public mind to the duty of educating and standing by the freedpeople.

I trust you will attend the meeting of the Trustees. It may not be altogether pleasant to you, as it would not to me. Still I <sup>\*meant</sup> arranged to go, and if E. Jackson had been able to carry out the plan he told me of, (in regard to time of holding the meeting,) I should have been there. (It almost seems to me as if the time had been fixed, to exclude some of the Trustees.) But I feel that

they, who were appointed by Francis Jackson as his trustees, and who were entrusted by him with the use and expenditure of his liberal gift, Should not withhold any effort in their power to give a right direction to it. If you do attend the meeting, will you ask if any of the absent Trustees have communicated their views,? - ~~and~~ as I wish to have my note read. I should hardly suppose that a final vote would be taken next Monday; but, if <sup>there</sup> ~~it~~ should be, I want my vote recorded in accordance with what I have to-day written to Edmund Jackson. C. H. Whipple has the notion that the \$10,000 will soon be paid over to the Trustees. I didn't so understand it, from what E. J. told me; but that these trustees were to advise as to the object, nearest in character to antislavery, to which the funds shd. be applied. At all events, let us do what we can to save them from misappropriation. What is the use of salarying such agents as C. L. Remond, P. Pillsbury, &c. &c. Truly Yours - Samt. May, Jr.